

CAIRO

Appl. No. 10/707,271

January 16, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph:

Turning to Figures 7-9, the present invention utilizes in one exemplary embodiment, a plurality of annular spacers 54 located axially between adjacent rings 56 and radially between the rings 56 and the magnetic shield 58 to form a mechanical barrier to axial migration of the rings. More specifically, each spacer 54 is an annular member, generally hat-shaped in transverse cross section as best seen in Figure 9. Thus, the spacer 54 includes two flat ends or side sections 60, 62, a pair of ramps 64, 66 and a flat upper or top surface 68, raised relative to the ends 60, 62. Surface 68 is formed with a plurality of cooling air slots 70. Note that the spacers 54 are generally aligned with cooling holes 72 in the magnetic shield 74 58 to allow cooling air to circulate between the rings 56. The ramps 64, 66 are formed with a ramp angle α (Figure 9) that matches the angles formed on the chamfered radially inner edges 76, 78 of the rings 56. Note that one ring 56 in Figure 7 is raised away from spacer 54 simply to assist in identifying edges 76, 78. Thus, the rings 44 fit closely into the "troughs" created by adjacent respective flat ends 52, 50 and ramps 66, 64 of respective adjacent spacers 54, and since the flat ends 52, 50 of the spacers are closely adjacent similar flat ends of adjacent spacers, axial migration of the rings 56 is substantially prevented. In other words, any minor axial shifting resulting from clearances between adjacent spacers is insufficient to permit migration of the rings to the extent of blocking any one or more cooling holes 72 in the magnetic shield 74. In this regard, while the individual spacers are not fixed to the magnetic shield, one or more

CAIRO

Appl. No. 10/707,271

January 16, 2004

stops 80 fixed at the ends of the magnetic shield serve to limit any axial migration of the entire group of spacers on the shield. Note that stop 80 may be an annular ring seated in an annular groove, or a plurality of pins located in holes in the shield at circumferentially spaced locations.